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1. SCOPE

1.1 PURPOSE: This standard establishes the minimum requirements for the qualification and certification of personnel involved in the application of nondestructive testing (NDT), nondestructive inspection (NDI), or nondestructive evaluation (NDE). These requirements include training, experience and examinations. For this document NDI, NDT and NDE will be referred to as NDT.

1.2 APPLICABILITY: This standard applies to personnel using NDT methods to accept materials, products, subsystems, components or systems. It also applies to those individuals directly responsible for the technical adequacy of the NDT methods used as well as those providing the technical training for NDT personnel. This standard is not intended to apply to individuals with administrative authority only over the personnel identified above or the research personnel developing technology for use by qualified and certified NDT personnel.

1.2.1 COMMON METHODS: This standard contains detailed requirements for the applicable training, experience, and examination for the following common methods:

- Liquid penetrant (PT)
- Magnetic particle (MT)
- Eddy current (ET)
- Ultrasonic (UT)
- Radiography (RT)

1.2.2 OTHER METHODS: This standard may apply to other NDT methods that can be used to determine the acceptability or suitability for intended service of a material, part, component, subsystem, or system without impairment of the intended function. Such methods include, but not limited to, acoustic emission, neutron radiography, leak testing, thermography, holography, computed tomography. The requirement for personnel training, experience, and examination for these other methods shall be as established by the Cognizant NDT Organization. Guidelines established for the methods listed in 1.2.1 may be used.

1.3 LEVELS OF QUALIFICATION: The levels of qualification established by this standard are:

- Trainee
- Level I
- Level II
- Level III

1.4 LEVELS OF CERTIFICATION: The levels requiring certification in accordance with this standard are:

- Level I
- Level II
- Level III
2. APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS

2.1 PUBLICATIONS: The following documents form a part of this document to the extent specified here in.

AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR NONDESTRUCTIVE TESTING

ASNT Recommended Practice No. SNT-TC-1A - Personnel Qualification and Certification in Nondestructive Testing

(Applications for copies should be addressed to the American Society for Nondestructive Testing, 1711 Arlingate Plaza, Columbus OH 43228-0518)

2.2 ORDER OF PRECEDENCE: In the event of a conflict between the text of this document and the references cited herein, the text of this document takes precedence. Nothing in this document, however, supersedes applicable laws and regulations unless a specific exemption has been obtained.

3. DEFINITIONS

3.1 AUDITOR: An individual qualified to review NDT facilities and procedures for compliance to requirements.

3.2 CERTIFICATION: Written documentation by an employer that an individual has met the applicable requirements of this standard and is working under the auspices of an NDT organization.

3.3 CERTIFIER: A designated representative of the employer with the responsibility and authority to document that an individual meets the applicable requirements of this standard.

3.4 CLOSED BOOK EXAMINATIONS: An examination administered without access to reference material except that provided with or in the examination. Reference material such as specifications, tables, formulas, etc. may be provided as determined by the responsible Level III. Questions utilizing such material shall require understanding of the information contained therein rather than merely finding its location.

3.5 COGNIZANT NDT ORGANIZATION: Organization responsible for administering qualification and certification of NDT personnel.

3.6 DOCUMENTED: The condition of being in written form.

3.7 EMPLOYER: A government, prime contractor, subcontractor or outside agency employing individuals performing NDT.

3.8 EVALUATION: The determination of the significance of indications.

3.9 EXAMINATION. A formal, controlled, documented interrogation conducted in accordance with
3.10 EXPERIENCE: Actual performance or observation conducted in the work environment resulting in the acquisition of knowledge and skill. This does not include classroom or laboratory training but does include on-the-job training.

3.11 FORMAL TRAINING. An organized and documented program or activities designed to impart the knowledge and skills necessary to be qualified to this standard. This program may be a mix of classroom, laboratory and programmed self-teach as approved by the responsible Level III.

3.12 GENERAL EXAMINATION: A written examination addressing the basic principles of the applicable NDT method.

3.13 INDICATION: Evidence of a condition that requires interpretation to determine its significance.

3.14 INSTRUCTOR: An individual qualified and designated, in accordance with this standard, to provide classroom or laboratory training for NDT personnel.

3.15 INTERPRETATION: The determination of whether indications are relevant or non-relevant.

3.16 METHOD: One of the disciplines of nondestructive inspection or testing (e.g. radiography) within which different techniques exist.

3.17 ON-THE-JOB TRAINING: Training in the work environment in learning instrumentation setup, equipment operation, recognition of indications, and interpretation under the appropriate technical guidance.

3.18 OUTSIDE AGENCY: An independent body providing training and examination of NDT personnel, or any other NDT services to the requirements of this standard. Consultants and self-employed individuals are included in this definition.

3.19 PRACTICAL EXAMINATION: The examination used to demonstrate an individual’s ability in conducting the NDT methods that will be performed for the employer. Questions and answers need not be written, but observations and results must be documented.

3.20 PRIME CONTRACTOR: A contractor having overall responsibility for design, control, and delivery of a system component, or product.

3.21 PROCEDURE: A detailed, written instruction for conducting NDT or certifying personnel.

3.22 QUALIFICATION: The skill, training, knowledge, experience and visual acuity required for personnel to properly perform to a particular Level.

3.23 SPECIFIC EXAMINATION: The written examination to determine an individual’s understanding of procedures, codes, standards and specifications for a given method used by the employer.
3.24 TECHNIQUE: A category within a method; for example, ultrasonic immersion testing or ultrasonic contact testing.

3.25 TEST SAMPLES: Parts or images containing known defects and used in the practical examination to demonstrate the candidate's proficiency in using a particular method. Test samples can refer to images of actual hardware, e.g. radiographs.

3.25 FORMAL TRAINING: An organized and documented program of activities designed to impart the knowledge and skills necessary to be qualified to this standard. This program may be a mix of classroom, laboratory and programmed self-teaching as approved by the responsible Level III.

3.26 WRITTEN: Retrievable electronic or hard copy.

4. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

4.1 CERTIFICATION PROCEDURE: The cognizant NDT organization shall develop and maintain a procedure for the qualifications and certification of their NDT personnel. This procedure shall be in accordance with the requirements of this standard. NAS 410 may be referenced in whole or in part to meet this requirement providing sub-paragraphs of 4.1 are satisfied. The procedure shall be available for review by the customer(s).

4.1.1 LEVELS OF QUALIFICATION: This shall include identification of the levels of qualification covered by the procedure. The cognizant NDT organization may add any additional levels that are appropriate; however, in no manner can the organization eliminate or reduce minimum requirements of this standard in its qualification and certification procedure.

4.1.2 PERSONNEL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: This shall include the identification of the duties and responsibilities for the different levels of qualification.

4.1.3 TRAINING PROGRAM: This shall include outlines or references of the instruction provided by the organization or outside training sources.

4.1.4 EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS: This shall include the techniques, as applicable, within the method and the minimum amount of time for each technique.

4.1.5 EXAMINATION PRACTICES: This shall include the designation of the individuals or organizations that will administer the examinations as well as the number of questions and the specific visual acuity tests to be used.

4.1.6 RECORDS AND DOCUMENTATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE PRACTICES: This shall include the description of the details to be recorded for each certified individual and identification of the individuals responsible for developing, administering, and maintaining the employer's certification program.

4.1.7 RECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS. This shall include the employers requirements for re-certification of personnel. It shall also include the conditions and requirements for the suspension, revocation and reinstatement of certification.
4.2 PERSONNEL: Personnel using NDT methods to accept materials, products, subsystems, components or systems shall be certified to the requirements of this standard. Personnel responsible for the technical adequacy of NDT methods shall also be certified. Trainees, auditors and instructors shall be qualified to this standard. Specialized NDT inspections utilizing NDT related techniques, such as ultrasonic thickness gauging or electrical conductivity testing, with equipment designed for and limited to such usage that produces a direct readout for both acceptable and unacceptable conditions, do not require qualification or certification to this standard.

4.3 METHODS: For the common methods listed in paragraph 1.2.1 of this standard, the requirements for training, experience and examination are detailed in section 5 of this standard. Those requirements, as well as recommendations in SNT TC-1A, may serve as guidelines for those methods not listed in paragraph 1.2.1.

4.4 COMPLIANCE: Prime contractors shall be responsible for compliance to this standard by their subcontractors. Those organizations utilizing outside agencies shall be responsible for assuring that the appropriate requirements of this standard are met. The employer is solely responsible for the certification of its employees and cannot certify for another employer. Individuals cannot certify themselves.

4.5 OUTSIDE AGENCY: An employer may utilize an outside agency to develop a certification program, train and examine NDT personnel and perform any other Level III function. An outside agency can qualify, but not certify personnel. The employer shall document the suitability of any outside source selected to perform any function to meet the requirements of this standard. This documentation shall be of sufficient detail to justify that the outside agency is capable of performing the required Level III function.

5. DETAILED REQUIREMENTS

5.1 LEVELS OF QUALIFICATION:

5.1.1 TRAINEE: A trainee is an individual who is participating in a training program for an NDT method and is not certified. Trainees shall obtain work experience under the supervision of a Level II or Level III in the same method. Trainees may also obtain work experience under the supervision of a Level I or instructor when approved by the responsible Level III. Trainees shall not make accept or reject decisions. Trainees shall not independently conduct tests or perform any other NDT function.

5.1.2 LEVEL I: Level I is the first certifiable qualification level. The Level I individual shall:
- have the skills and knowledge to process parts and perform equipment standardization.
- be knowledgeable of any necessary preparation of parts before or after inspection.
- be able to follow procedures in the techniques for which certified.
- receive guidance or supervision from a Level II or III individual when necessary.

With written approval from the responsible Level III, a Level I may perform interpretations and evaluations of specific product or product form for acceptance or rejection. The Level I shall document the results in accordance with the specific procedure. The specific product or product form shall be documented.
5.1.3 LEVEL II: Level II individuals shall:
- have the skills and knowledge to set up and standardize equipment, conduct tests, interpret, and evaluate for acceptance or rejection, and document results in accordance with procedures approved by the appropriate Level III.
- be thoroughly familiar with the scope and limitations of the method in which they are certified and as directed, be capable of providing the necessary guidance to trainees and Level I personnel.
- be familiar with the codes, standards, and other contractual documents that control the method as utilized by the employer.
- be capable of developing procedures for approval by a Level III.

5.1.4 LEVEL III: Level III individuals shall:
- have the skills and knowledge to interpret codes, standards, and other contractual documents that control the method as utilized by the employer.
- be capable of selecting the method and technique for a specific inspection.
- prepare and verify the adequacy of procedures.
- approve NDT procedures and other NDT related work instructions for technical adequacy in the method to which they are certified.
- have general knowledge of all other NDT methods utilized by the employer.
- be capable of conducting or directing the training and examination of personnel in the method certified.
- conduct NDT for the acceptance of parts only when a demonstration of proficiency in this capability was included in the practical examination during certification testing.

5.1.5 INSTRUCTOR: Instructors shall have the skills and knowledge to plan, organize, and present classroom, laboratory, or on-the-job training programs of instruction, in accordance with approved course outlines.

5.1.6 AUDITOR: An auditor shall have the education, training, skills and knowledge to understand the processes and procedures utilized in the application of NDT processes. The individual shall be familiar with the applicable codes, standards, and other contractual documents that control the method.

5.2 TRAINING: Candidates for certification as Level I or Level II shall complete sufficient organized training to become proficient with the principles and practices of the applicable test method and techniques. The training shall be conducted in accordance with a detailed course outline approved by the responsible Level III. The training shall cover basic principles, products, equipment, operating procedures, techniques, applicable specifications, codes and instructions used by the employer. Subjects not covered in the instruction shall not appear on the training outline. The training outline shall include a list of references from which the training material is derived.

5.2.1 SPECIALIST PERSONNEL: With the exception of specialist personnel, training shall be presented by an instructor or a Level III qualified to this standard. Specialist personnel not qualified to this standard may be used to provide instruction on highly specialized topics. Selection of specialist personnel must be approved by the responsible Level III.
5.2.2 MINIMUM REQUIRED TRAINING HOURS: The minimum training hours for Levels I and II are given in Table I for the specified NDT methods. The minimum training hours for those methods not covered by Table I shall be as determined by the responsible Level III. This Standard or SNT-TC-1A may be used as a guideline for those methods not included in paragraph 1.2.1. There are no additional training requirements to transition from Level II to Level III nor can an individual have sufficient training to allow certification to Level III without prior certification as a Level II or performance equivalent to a Level II.

TABLE I MINIMUM FORMAL TRAINING HOURS, LEVEL I AND II

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>METHOD</th>
<th>HOURS/CONDITION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PENETRANT</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAGNETIC PARTICLE</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDDY CURRENT</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ULTRASONIC</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RADIOGRAPHY</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[1] Level I
[2] Level II, with prior Level I Certification
[3] Level II, no prior Level I Certification

5.2.3 PREVIOUS TRAINING: Training shall be documented in order to be accepted by the employer. For personnel credited with prior training or those not certified within 6 months of their training, refresher training must be provided. The refresher training shall cover the following subjects with the depth of coverage of each subject determined by the Level III responsible for the employer's certification program:

Set-up and standardization
Operation of applicable test or inspection equipment
Specific test or inspection procedures
Interpretation and evaluation of test or inspection results
Safety
Applicable codes, standards and specification

5.2.4 EQUIVALENT TRAINING: For personnel certified under previous revisions of this document or other NDT qualification/certification programs, the equivalency of their previous training to the requirements of Table 1 will be determined and documented by the responsible Level III.
5.3 EXPERIENCE: Candidates for certification at Level I, II or III shall have sufficient practical experience to assure that they are capable of performing the duties of the level for which certification is sought. The minimum requirements for Level I, II and III are given in Table II.

**TABLE II. MINIMUM EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PENETRANT</td>
<td>130 hrs</td>
<td>270 hrs</td>
<td>400 hrs</td>
<td>4 yrs</td>
<td>2 yrs</td>
<td>1 yr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAGNETIC PARTICLE</td>
<td>130 hrs</td>
<td>400 hrs</td>
<td>530 hrs</td>
<td>4 yrs</td>
<td>2 yrs</td>
<td>1 yr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDDY CURRENT</td>
<td>130 hrs</td>
<td>1200 hrs</td>
<td>1330 hrs</td>
<td>4 yrs</td>
<td>2 yrs</td>
<td>1 yr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ULTRASONICS</td>
<td>400 hrs</td>
<td>1200 hrs</td>
<td>1600 hrs</td>
<td>4 yrs</td>
<td>2 yrs</td>
<td>1 yr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RADIOGRAPHY</td>
<td>400 hrs</td>
<td>1200 hrs</td>
<td>1600 hrs</td>
<td>4 yrs</td>
<td>2 yrs</td>
<td>1 yr</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- [1] Trainee, total NDT experience for Level I. Experience in method must be at least half this time.*
- [2] Level I, total NDT experience for Level II. Experience in method must be at least half this time.*
- [3] Trainee, total NDT experience for direct certification to Level II. Experience in method must be at least half this time.*
- [4] Level II or equivalent experience required for Level III with no college degree. Experience in multiple methods may be accumulated simultaneously.
- [5] Level II or equivalent experience required for Level III with technical associate degree. Experience in multiple methods may be accumulated simultaneously.
- [6] Level II or equivalent work experience required for Level III with technical bachelors degree. Experience in multiple methods may be accumulated simultaneously.

Equivalency of the work experience shall be determined and documented by the Level III responsible for the employer's certification program. Experience in multiple methods may be accumulated simultaneously.

* Applies when remaining time is in other NDT methods when approved by the responsible Level III.

5.3.1 PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE: A candidate's experience with a previous employer may be accepted by the current employer only if that experience is documented.

5.3.2 EQUIVALENT EXPERIENCE: For personnel certified under previous revisions of this document or other qualification/certification programs, the equivalency of their previous experience to the requirements of Table II will be determined and documented by the Level III.
5.4 QUALIFICATION EXAMINATIONS: The examinations to verify the visual acuity and technical qualifications of candidate personnel shall consist of a visual examination, a general examination, a specific examination and a practical examination. The requirements for the visual examination; the questions utilized for the general and specific examinations, and the checklist for the practical examination shall be available for review by the facility's customers. The questions shall be made available to certification candidates only during administration of the qualification examinations.

5.4.1 VISUAL ACUITY: The vision examination shall assure that the applicants near vision and color perception meet the following requirements. Near vision test shall be administered annually and color perception tests shall be administered prior to certification or recertification. These tests shall be administered by an individual approved by the Level III responsible for the maintenance of the certification program or by the outside agency utilized for the qualification examination of personnel:

5.4.1.1 NEAR VISION - Jaeger #1 test chart at not less than 12 inches or equivalent visual examination as determined by medical personnel. Candidate must meet requirements with at least one eye, either natural or corrected.

5.4.1.2 COLOR PERCEPTION - Distinguish and differentiate between the colors used in the method for which certification is sought. Limitation in color perception shall be evaluated by the responsible Level III prior to certification

5.4.2 GENERAL: The general examination for all levels shall be a closed book examination consisting of questions that cover the cross-section of the applicable method at the appropriate level. The questions, answers, and references in the applicable SNT-TC-1A supplement and other publications may be used to develop the general examination. A minimum of 40 questions shall be used for the general examination at each level. For the Level III, the general examination questions will address the general knowledge of other methods as well as the method for which certification is sought. Possession of a current ASNT NDT Level III or equivalent certificate by the candidate may be satisfactory evidence that the general examination requirement is satisfied.

5.4.3 SPECIFIC: The specific examination for all levels shall be a closed book examination and shall cover the requirements and use of the specifications, codes, equipment, operating procedures, and test techniques the candidate may use in the performance of their duties. A minimum of 30 questions shall be used for the specific examination at each level.

5.4.4 PRACTICAL: The practical examination shall consist of a demonstration of proficiency in performing tasks that are typical of those to be accomplished in the performance of the candidate’s duties. Test samples used in the examination may be actual hardware, if the candidate is required to demonstrate proficiency in the application of the process as well as interpretation of results or may be images, such as radiographs if the candidate is only required to interpret the results and not perform the process of generating the image. Written checklists covering the topics detailed in the sub-paragraphs shall be developed by the responsible Level III to assure adequate coverage and to assist in the administration and grading of the examination.
5.4.4.1 LEVEL I: The candidate shall demonstrate proficiency by using the appropriate method to examine at least one test sample for each technique to be used and document the results. The test samples shall be representative of the products to be encountered by the candidate in the performance of their duties. The checklist shall address proficiency in the use of the equipment and materials, adherence to procedural details and the documentation of the results. If the Level I candidate is to accept products (para. 5.1.2.1), then the checklist shall also include proficiency in the interpretation and evaluation of indications.

5.4.4.2 LEVEL II: The candidate shall demonstrate proficiency by using the appropriate method to examine at least one test sample for each technique for which certification is sought. At least two test samples (para. 3.24) shall be evaluated for each method. The test samples shall be representative of the products to be encountered by the candidate in the performance of their duties. The candidate shall interpret, evaluate and document the results of the examination of the test samples. The checklist shall include proficiency in the use of equipment and materials, adherence to procedural details, and the accuracy and completeness of interpretation and evaluations of indications.

5.4.4.3 LEVEL III: The candidate shall demonstrate proficiency by preparing an NDT procedure appropriate to their employer's requirements. In the event that the candidate has already developed satisfactory procedures, then it is not necessary to develop another one for the practical examination. Procedures developed for a previous employer may be used to satisfy this requirement if their adequacy can be verified and documented. When the candidate's duties will include inspection or evaluation of products, then proficiency in performance of such tasks shall be demonstrated to the requirements of 5.4.4.2. The checklist shall address the practical and technical adequacy of the procedures prepared by the candidate, and when applicable, the adequacy of the interpretation and evaluation of indications. The results of the practical examination shall be documented.

5.4.5 ADMINISTRATION: A Level III, knowledgeable and familiar with the specifications, standards, codes, techniques and products associated with the employer, and certified Level III in the method for which the examinations are given, shall be responsible for the administration of all qualification examinations. The administration and grading of those examinations using multiple choice or true/false type questions can be delegated by the Level III. If an outside agency is used to provide this function, then the employer shall assure that the individual who performs the administration of the examinations is fully qualified. In no case can an examination be administered by one's self or by a subordinate.

5.4.6 GRADING: The candidate for certification must achieve a minimum grade of 70% on the general and specific qualification examinations. The candidate must detect all discontinuities or conditions specified by the Level III during the practical examination and achieve a minimum score of 70%. The candidate must have an average score of no less than 80% in order to be eligible for certification. All examination scores shall be of equal weight in determining the average score. Scores for third party examinations where grading is a pass/fail, the value of pass used for the average score shall be 80%.
5.4.7 RE-EXAMINATION: Candidates failing any examination, (general, specific or practical) shall receive additional training before attempting re-examination of the failed exam. The additional training shall be documented and shall address those areas found deficient in the candidate's skills or knowledge. The re-examination shall not utilize the same tests or specimens that were used in the initial examination.

5.5 APPROVAL OF INSTRUCTORS: Instructors shall be approved by the Level III responsible for the employer's certification program and shall meet at least one of the following criteria:

a. Be certified to Level III in the method for which they will be designated Instructors.

b. Possess the equivalent of a B.S. in engineering, physical science or technology and have adequate knowledge in the method for which they will be designated Instructors.

c. Possess an associate's degree in physical science or technology and have a minimum of 2 years experience, or equivalent, as a Level II in the method for which they will be designated Instructors.

d. Possess a minimum of 4 years experience as a Level II, or equivalent, in the method for which they will be designated Instructors.

5.6 QUALIFICATION AND APPROVAL OF AUDITORS: Personnel performing external supplier audits, surveys or assessments shall be approved by the responsible Level III from the cognizant NDT organization. They shall have documented NDT and audit training and shall pass (scoring per 5.4.6) general and specific examinations covering the applicable NDT methods and audit requirements. They shall also pass a practical examination consisting of two audits, accompanied by a qualified NDT auditor. The supervising auditor and the responsible Level III shall determine training content and time required. Third party auditors may be used by the employers when approved by the NDT Level III and documented evidence of qualification is on file and available for review.

5.7 CERTIFICATION: Personnel who have demonstrated that they possess the appropriate qualifications are eligible for certification by their employer in accordance with the employer's certification procedure. Certification is not required for personnel who are trainees or those who are designated as Instructors or Auditors.

5.7.1 RECORDS: The employer shall maintain certification records for personnel for as long as their certification is in effect. Such records shall be available for audit by the facility's customers. The records shall include, as a minimum:

a. Name of the individual certified.

b. Level, method, and techniques for which individual is certified.

c. The latest written test and test scores, that the individual has taken.

d. Date and expiration of current certification(s).

e. Summary of all previous NDT certifications with current employer.
f. Training history which identifies source, type of training and dates of training, and course hours.

g. Experience history, including any previous certifications, both with current and previous employers sufficient to justify satisfaction of experience requirements for certification.

h. Results of visual acuity examinations.

J. Extent and documentation of formal education, when required.

5.7.2 LOSS OF CERTIFICATION: Certification may expire, be suspended or be revoked. Certification shall expire when employment is terminated or when the certification interval has lapsed with no recertification issued.

5.7.2.1 Certification shall be suspended when the physical examination is overdue, the individual does not perform in the method certified for at least 12 consecutive months, or the individual's performance is found to be deficient in any manner.

5.7.2.2 Certification shall be revoked when the individual does not perform in the method certified for at least 24 consecutive months or the individual's conduct is found to be unethical or incompetent.

5.7.3 REINSTATEMENT OF CERTIFICATION: Certifications that have been suspended may be reinstated when the cause for the suspension has been corrected and the correction verified by the employer. Certifications that have expired or been revoked may not be reinstated except by recertification.

5.7.4 MAINTAINANCE OF CERTIFICATION.

5.7.4.1 Level I and Level II Certification
Maintenance of certification for Level I and Level II personnel shall involve both recertification and additional periodic evaluation of proficiency.

5.7.4.1.1 Recertification
Level I and Level II personnel shall be recertified at intervals not to exceed six years. The general, practical and specific examinations equivalent to those required for initial certification shall be administered.

5.7.4.1.2 Evaluation of Proficiency:
Level I and II personnel shall successfully complete a documented evaluation of proficiency at two-year intervals within the certification period. A Level III shall perform this evaluation using a checklist or by documenting observations identifying the process, NDT method, and observation areas. Questions and answers need not be written, but observations and results shall be documented.

5.7.4.2 Level III Certification
Level III personnel shall be recertified at intervals not to exceed five years. Recertification including the practical may be accomplished by documented experience. If equipment operation or accepting production hardware is required on a regular basis as a primary part of their duties, a practical exam equivalent to initial certification shall be administered.

5.7.4.3 Certification Extensions
A single 30 calendar day extension for the general, specific, and practical portions of the recertification may be granted with the approval of the responsible Level III. The vision examination shall not be extended.